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**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.: 10/087,234

Filed: March 1, 2002

Inventors:

Ajay Kumar

Hanumanthu Rao Susarla

Prakash Khemani

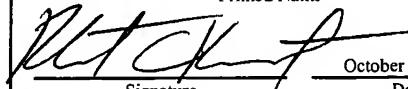
Title: LOCK MECHANISM FOR A  
DISTRIBUTED DATA  
SYSTEM

§ Examiner: Hwang, Joon H.  
§ Group/Art Unit: 2172  
§ Atty. Dkt. No: 5681-11700  
§

§ I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with  
§ the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first  
§ class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment,  
§ Commission for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA  
§ 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

Robert C. Kowert

Printed Name

  
Signature

October 14, 2004

Date

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION OF  
JULY 14, 2004**

**RECEIVED**

OCT 25 2004

Technology Center 2100

**Mail Stop Amendment**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action of July 14, 2004, to further highlight why the application is in condition for allowance.

Please amend the case as listed below.